THE EXCITER

Formerly Called Gutter Dope, Established in 1934.

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SPECIAL NOTICE

BECAUSE OF NIGHT CLASSES NOW BEING CONDUCTED AT DRAUGHON'S SCHOOL OF ELECTRONICS, THE SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB IS CHANGING ITS MEETING PLACE. CHECK WITH THE LOCAL RADIO PARTS STORES AND READ NEXT MONTH'S EXCITER FOR FULL DETAILS.

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DX NOTES

Spring has sprung and the seasonal swing from winter to summer DX conditions is well under way. We can look for 10 meter openings to be few, mostly to Southern Africa and South America. 15 meters should support frequent daytime openings to all continents with generally weak signals, and reliable 20 meters should continue to open to all parts of the world, especially in the hours just after sunrise and just before sunset. 40 meter propagation conditions should show real improvement with strong early morning openings to Australasia. 80 meters will begin its summer dip as QRN and increased absorption wreak havoc on that band.

On QSL'ing: In the recent past, QSL return percentages from DX have increased markedly. A large part of this must be credited to the many US QSL managers who give their time and cash to ease the QSL burden for DX operators. Another factor is the increasing acceptance of International Reply Coupons throughout the world. Enclosing 2 or 3 IRC's with an address label sticker has brought instant airmail return QSL's from nearly all the newly independent African nations, for example. In this connection, some award sponsors here in the US resell IRC's at 10 for $1, affording a savings of 50¢ over the Post Office price for ten of them. (Try WIUB, sponsor of the Worked United Nations' Award, for a supply at these bargain prices.)

For a listing to QSL managers that is revised regularly, try K6BX's service; it saves many hours otherwise spent scanning old QSTs, etc. to obtain this information. And when all else fails, just give up on the blighter and work some other station in that country--if you can. C U next month.

73 & DX
Len, W5LGG

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VHF AND UP

February was an exciting month for the US space age with the orbiting and landing of Lt. Col. Glenn. As reported in the last issue of the EXCITER, the frequency 15.016 mc. used for communications between the Mercury capsule and the ground was received by a number of San Antonio amateurs.

W5LGG, Len Parsons, took time out during lunch to tune in on Freedom 7 during its 2nd pass over Texas. W5FMG, Bro. Hamm, and his students at St. Mary's University, kept track of the proceedings as did K5CHR, Doug Travers from SwResearch Institute. The writer received various transmissions from the cape, the capsule and the West Coast, at various times, using a Grundig transistor SW receiver with 2 ft. whip.

Because some of the out stations in the Mercury tracking net were using SSB and others AM, there was some confusion in the certainty as to just when the capsule was being received instead of a distant out station. The casual but careful listener was also confused with the various signals on 15.016 mc because of the sky wave skip zone to the various stations, a changing sky wave skip zone path to the capsule, direct line of sight to the capsule, ionospheric blackout during capsule re-entry and an ionospheric disturbance (WWV was sending W5, disturbed). All-in-all, it was a rather exciting day for all.

For those interested in satellite orbit data and radio monitoring of ESV's, the Voice of America, is now transmitting a special series of space news broadcasts. The broadcasts can be heard from 2130-2135 CST Monday thru Saturday on short wave stations WLWO, WDSI, and WBOU on frequencies of 9765, 11790, 11830 and 15290 KC. The news will cover new satellite launchings as well as provide data on satellites already in orbit, revised up to the minute. A reliable source of space information such as this has been surely needed for some time.

Editor ---------- K5PKX
VHF Editor ---------- W5LFM
DX Editor ---------- W5LGG
40 Meter Editor ---------- K5MOF
SSB Editor ---------- W5BVI
Circulation Manager ----- K5OPT

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THE SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB, W5SC
W5IWE, Pres. K5VCR, V. P.
W5EDZ, Sec. K5UKN, Treas.

The 4 cent U. S. stamp commemorating Project Mercury, which went on sale at all U. S. Post Offices the morning after the successful flight of Glen, must have been a closely guarded plan. The stamp depicts the Mercury capsule orbiting the earth and did not go on sale until the feat was a fact. And so our challenging times go on.

Good luck for now, Cal Graf, W5LFM

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SINGLE SIDE-BAND

Sidebanders are going to be out in force the weekend of 24-25 March working the SSB DX Contest. This is that chance you need to check out that sideband rig and see what it can do. Why not join in and put San Antonio on the map as a sideband city. W5EJT has already served notice that he is going to shine in this one.

Some new equipment has been put on the air around the Alamo City. Robby, K5SJB, has a new final on the air and doing a very fine job. Hal, K5JMI, is using a 30Ll final and really putting out a signal. Al, K5TYJ/5 has a new S-Line and getting some very fine reports. Paid a visit to Irving Electronics and got a peek at the little 6 meter SSB rig and it looks good; so watch out 6 meters because here comes more sideband.

For those that want to see what Sideband can do just take a look at page 72 of the Feb. 62 CQ and see what skinny Charlie and I did in 24 hours. We only made WAS in 24 hours and all but two contacts on 20 meters.

Those of you that haven't written your Senators and Congressmen requesting his support on Senate Bill S-2361 should get busy and write them a letter as this bill is coming up for a vote soon. For those of you that don't know about it, you should consult Oct 61 CQ or QST. All you military people around the Alamo City get busy as this bill has a lot to do with you. Anyone who doesn't know what to say or who your senator is give me a call at WA.3-1586.

Until next month.

73 and good sidebanding
Mac W5BVI

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40 METERS

With the big DX Contest over we have had no reports of how many rare ones the boys worked on 40. The author managed to work Haiti and heard ZL2BE in New Zeland. Well, better luck next time.

Some of the stations up east in 2 and 3 land (both AM and SSB) worked about 49 countries on 40 during the first weekend of the contest. How about the 5 area? Did anyone here do as well?

MODERN ELECTRONICS CO.
910 W. LAUREL, SAN ANTONIO

SAN ANTONIO	CORPUS CHRISTI	AUSTIN
PE 5-9271	TU 4-5276	GR 6-9193

Spring is here! Now is the time to get that General or Extra Class License. We have Code Records and Courses. Instructograph tape machines for rent or sale. Don't delay, do it now!

FRED K5ENK PAUL K5OHG JIM K5TYI

As usual the 40 meter band has required a lot of patience and fortitude with conditions, both man-made and natural, the way they are.

And of course more stations appearing on 40 every day. Some heard recently are: W5IBN, K5ISA, K5KNJ, W5GUR, WA5AGN, W1UDX/5, K5TGA/m, K5EAZ/5, W4ANZ/5, W5DHO, W5RT, K5TYK, and W5GL/5 Ted. We want to take this opportunity to welcome Ted to the General ranks. You may find him anywhere from 80 to 2 now.

The news has been sparse lately so if you have any info for 40 please send it to -----

Aubrey, K5MOF
73

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HOME-BREW CONTEST

The San Antonio Radio Club is sponsoring a "home-brew" equipment contest. There will be several classes of entries such as kits, transmitting and receiving equipment and a gadget or accessory class. If you are especially proud of the job you did wiring up the ole DX-60 or building the cool kilowatt from the new Handbook or maybe you just started building and have ended up with something very nice that does something, you may not know what, how or why, bring it down to the club and let the judges give it an appraisal. You can also get up before the club and expound of the skill you displayed in creating this thing of beauty. The first prize, to be awarded at the end of the club year in September, will be $25.00. Hand me that soldering iron, boy!

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GUTTER DOPE

Joyce Ross, WA5DHR, can now be heard on six meters. WB5DHR, is also operating on the Novice bands..

K5FUE, Clinton, and WN5AFA recently visited Ruth and Gene Jank, K5OPT and W5EJT. While there they had their first "taste" of SSB with Clinton hooking up with his brother in Kentucky.

Robbie, K5SJB, convalescing from a recent operation. With Robbies other hobby, collecting and polishing rocks, he may have been suffering from gall "stones". Hi.

The Crossroads Radio Club in the Canal Zone has just presented Crossroads Certificate

RADIO & TELEVISION PARTS CO.

1828 St. Mary's St. CA 7-7503 San Antonio 12, Texas

Amateur — Industrial — T.V.

Spring is just around the corner and with spring a young ham's fancy turns to birds, bees and antennas. Do you have a bum beam?

You say your traps don't trap?
You say your tower toppled,
You say your verticals horizontal?

Well, old Skinny Charlie's the guy you want to see. He's got Hy-Gain, Mosley and Cush Craft antennas in stock. Towers—sure he's got 'em. Jontz, always in stock and Tri-Ex and E-Z Way while you wait . . .

TOWERS TO TUBES, TRANSMITTERS TO TRANSISTORS, RECEIVERS TO RECTIFIERS, CHARLIE'S GOT 'EM!

Charlie	Jerry	James	Jimmy	Marion
K5VCR	K5AXN	K5FOU	K5WLQ	W5DBN

Harry 9W1785 Richard 9W1574

Number 18 to K5OPT, Ruth. This certificate is given to any amateur that completes 15 phone patches for Canal Zone stations. This is their way so showing their thanks to the states stations that help bring home a little closer when you are far away.

WN5AFA real pleased to be able to listen to Lt. Col. Glenn's transmission as he orbited the earth. We are also pleased to know that the Exciter told him the frequency to be used.

W5WXT, Inez, has just received the first certificate issued for Worked 100 Texas Counties. The certificate is sponsored by the Dallas Amateur Radio Club. Incidentally, Inez worked most of these counties during her Novice days. Now there is a real challenge to any Novice.

CLASSIFIED

For Sale: 75A1, new tubes, factory aligned. $200. W5KYJ, TA.4-4816.

Amateur Radio Service: Receiver/Transmitter Repairs, Custom Building. For any Amateur service call W5RSD--WA.3-8468.

Buy - Sell - Trade: VHF FM Units for Amateur use. W5VPQ, DI.4-4191.

For Sale: KW2 Linear Amplifier (Aug 61 CQ), w/pr 4-125as and 1500V Power Supply, 80-6M. $125. K5LLK, TA.6-7839.

Globe Scout 680, Good condition, $70. Free Heath VFO VFI with sale. K5TGA, CA.2-8411, ext. 3003.

For Sale: DX-40 Transmitter. Will pitch in three xtals. $45, K5ONC, GE-3-1964.

Sale or Swap: 6 & 2 Cushcraft Beam for what have you. K5DXB, TA.4-6197 after 2400 GMT.

Would like to trade for good tube tester and also Ham Transmitter. W5RSD - WA.3-8468.

Trade: 3 Neighbors with TVI for 3 who like to party. Charlie, K5VCR

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SPECIFICATIONS for an AMPLIFIER

Power Output: 75 watts continuous

Harmonic Distortion: Less than 0.5% at 75 watts output or less, 20 cycles through 20,000 cycles. Typical performance is 0.3% or less for 20 cycles and 20,000 cycles at full power. Typical mid frequency performance is less than 0.1% at full power.

Intermodulation Distortion: Less than 0.5% for any combination of frequencies from 20 cycles through 20,000 cycles if intantaneous peak power is below 150 watts.

Phase Shift: Less than 8° 20 cycles through 20,000 cycles.

Frequency Range:

At 75 watts output:
+0, -0.1 db 18 cycles through 40,000 cycles
+0, -0.5 db 18 cycles through 60,000 cycles

At 38 watts output:
+0, -1 db 14 cycles through 100 kilocycles

Noise and Hum: 90 db or more below rated output

THE McIntosh 75

BILL CASE'S *SOUND*

TA 2-1341 3522 BROADWAY

A SOUND TRADITION IN THE SOUTHWEST

W5VPQ

George Munsch
451 Pilgrim
City

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